

Around the Services

Compiled by Paul Disney from service reports



Air Force

C-17 Globemaster III aircrews dropped the one-millionth humanitarian daily ration in an ongoing campaign to feed refugees in Afghanistan.

Without fanfare, a loadmaster aboard one of the C-17s dropped the single ration from the rear of the plane. The airlifts have been dropping 34,000 to 70,000 HDRs every night since Oct. 8, when Operation Enduring Freedom began.



Department of Defense

DOD health officials have released an information paper that indicates no U.S. or coalition troops sent to the Balkans have been exposed to health threats related to depleted uranium.

Depleted uranium is a prime component in some U.S. weapons. In early 2001 international media reported a link between depleted uranium and leukemia in Italian peacekeepers who served in the Balkans. Studies by European health agencies and international organizations back the U.S. study's conclusions.



Navy

A new oceanographic research vessel, USNS *Kilo Moana*, was recently commissioned in Jacksonville, Fla., by Hawaii Senator Daniel Inouye. The vessel, whose name means "oceanographer" in Hawaiian, will perform a broad range of research in coastal and deep-ocean areas.



Marines

The Marines airlifted into southern Afghanistan to set up a forward operating base are to be replaced by soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division from Fort Campbell, Ky. U.S. forces will continue to use the base to support anti-Taliban forces in Afghanistan and to aid in humanitarian-assistance efforts.

